The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives news accounts and editorial interpretations of matters affecting labor occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and contains other information of benefit to the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR
WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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Write Your Senators And Congressman To Fight Anti-Labor Bills

WHOLE NO. 1886 | WILLIAM GREEN, President | WASHINGTON, D. C., TUESDAY, JUNE 3, 1947 | GEORGE MEANY, Secretary-Treasurer | VOL. 37, NO. 22

Huge New York Rally Demands Veto Of Taft-Hartley Bill

Both Murray and Lesinski Plead For Defeat of Slave-Labor Measure

Washington, D. C.—In a joint statement, one of the most condemnatory emanating in recent years from members of Congress against a Senate-House conference agreement on a major legislative decision, Senator Murray of Montana and Representative Lesinski of Michigan, both members of the conference group, branded the anti-labor bill compromise "bad legislation and a millestone in the road back" for American workers.

"In our opinion," they declared, "the Conference Committee has made a bad piece of legislation worse. We have previously stated that this legislation will cause domestic strife and uncertainty and that it will be used abroad to discredit American institutions and marking a reactionary, anti-labor trend.

"The weakening of the Wagner and Norris-La Guardia Acts, the impediments placed in the way of legitimate trade union activity, the denial of settled rights, "would constitute a major setback to labor, they said.

Emphasizing that the Senate House conferees "have worsened rather than improved the proposed legislation," the joint statement of the two members of the Conference Committee warned:

"The conferees have added further restrictions on the right of unions to conduct their internal affairs. They have added further provisions to hamper and harass the administration of the Labor Department and have set up a labor czar within the National Labor Relations Board.

"They have strengthened the positions of Communists in the labor movement by visiting a penalty—nonrecognition of the union—upon anti-Communists, non-Communists and Communists alike.

"Trade unions are denied the right to engage, like other organizations, in political activity. Statements by employers, unlike those of all other persons, are not to be used in evidence. In an attempt to outlaw 'blacklisting,' the bill restores the speed-up.

"The conference bill is not only bad legislation—it is worse economics.

"It goes to the very root of our critical economic situation. It must, therefore, be judged by its effects on our economic future. If there is any mandate this Congress has from the American people it is a mandate to avoid the mistakes of 1930—to prevent the return of bread-lines and depression.

"Already the first signs of recession are appearing. Business leaders have begun to dig economic storm cellars. The basic cause of the recession is the failure of wages to keep pace with prices and profits. The gap between wages on the one hand and prices and profits on the other is widening. Any measure, therefore, which is calculated to help business from moving to narrow the gap, merely worsens and accelerates an economic recession of the utmost gravity to democracy at home and to our relations abroad.

"The facts speak can convince the American people that we have ever faced the April, 1920, 'Goodby' or 'struck' into a depression. The people should know that we are speculated into panics and profiteered into depressions. They will not long be deceived by the hollow slogan that these evils are 'inevitable' or 'cyclical.'

"The conference report, because it is self-defeating, unfair, and economically, is bad legislation. Because it will increase the cost of living for American life toward industrial conflict and violence, because it will weakens the chief agency that protects the purchasing power of American consumers, it is bad economics.

"The conferees hope that this amendment will exercise his constitutional right to veto this legislation, believe that an informed and aroused public will force him to do so. We intend to finally this reactionary measure."

As the bill was about to go to press, both House and Senate were preparing to override the veto of the conferees' report, with prospects that the measure would be signed and replaced on President Truman's desk this week.

Labor Writers Want Compulsory Voting

Washington, D. C.—The Eastern Labor Press Conference, in session here last Saturday, adopted a resolution asking Congress to enact a law requiring every qualified citizen to vote in national elections.

The conference, which is composed of about 100 AFL labor writers and monthlies, declared that 20,000,000 labor members stayed home in the last two elections, which resulted in election of antilabor Congresses and the enactment antilabor legislation.

The resolution also suggests that unions file political spending memberships to register and vote, and that they fail to tell anyone how to vote, but to ask them to just vote, in belief that if all trade unionists exercise the full right of franchise results will be favorable.

The conference also congratulated the AFL on the campaign to defeat antilabor legislation and urged labor representatives to print the AFL story without cost; urged the AFL to establish a daily report to the nation's labor's views to the public.

Harold Gaskill, of Madison, Wis., president of State, County and Municipal Workers, was reelected president of the conference; Frank B. Morse, editor of the Commercial Telegrapher, official organ of the Commercial Telegraphers International Union, Washington, was elected secretary-treasurer; Martin McIntyre, editor of the Union, Bradford, Pa., recording secretary.

FIVE AFL BUILDING CRAFTS IN KANSAS CITY GET RAISE

Kansas City, Mo.—Five major AFL building crafts have won a 15-cent hourly wage increase, and 5,000 men involved in the settlement were composed of carpenters, laborers, operating engineers, lathers and cement finishers.

Electricians and sheet metal workers signed earlier agreements for the same bount, and boilermakers, glaziers and painters settled for 12½ cents an hour.

400,000 JOBLESS IN NEW YORK

New York City.—Unemployment in the city has increased steadily and there are now slightly more than 400,000 unemployed, Frederick Ecker, the director of the metropolitan area of the New York State Employment Service. As of the middle of May, 258,000 persons for the AFL Unemployment insurance, according to statistics. Some, 92,000 were claimants and 80,000 were veterans, applying for Federal readjustment allowances also administered by the State. Other statistics bore out the full figure.

FACTORY EARNINGS DOWN

Washington, D. C.—The U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that average hourly earnings in manufacturing continued to rise in April but weekly earnings declined because of a drop in working hours. Weekly and hourly earnings in all manufacturing averaged $47.44 compared with $47.72 per week in March of this year.

RAIL SCHOOL UNION GIVEN 25% RAISE, OTHER BENEFITS

Scranton, Pa.—Employes of the Railroad Department of the International Correspondence Schools of this city have recently signed an agreement covering wages, hours, working facilities and the handling of grievances. The employes are represented under the International Federation of Technical Engineers, Architects and Draftsmen's Unions, Local 200 (AFL).

The contract covers a 25 percent wage boost averaging $10 weekly expenses, vacation with pay, seniority, sick leave, hours, maximum working conditions of employment, retroactive pay dating back to May 1, 1946. It is only all-union group of employes rendering technical correspondence service to the organized labor membership on American railroads.

AFL ELECTRICAL WORKERS GET 13-CENT RAISE IN MO.

St. Louis, Mo.—Wage increases of 13 cents an hour, retroactive to January 1, were awarded to 2,400 AFL members employed by the Union Electric Company of Missouri by the national demand of the four IBEW locals in the territory for a 20-cent increase. The decision awarded the workers an immediate increase of 5 cents an hour starting August 1.

FOOD COSTS LESS IN CANADA THAN HERE

According to a survey revealed by the Canadian Trade Board, the cost of 30 basic food prices in Canada, still under control, are far below those in the United States.

Since August, 1939, the cost of living in Canada has increased approximately 30 percent and since V-J Day the living costs have risen 5 to 6 percent, the survey shows. This compares with an increase of 44.8 percent from 1939 to date in the United States.

MORE VETS SEEK TO BUILD

Washington, D. C.—Although property and building materials are hard to get, veterans' applications for loans to build homes under the GI bill rose 25 percent in April over figures for the previous month, the Veterans Administration disclosed.

Seasonal factors contributed to the rise, the March total of 41,000 loan applications to 51,000 for April. The April figure was considered high. April were 692,000 and only 2,823 had been on loans for a recording.

JOBLESS AID INCREASED

San Francisco, Calif.—Important changes have been made in Unemployment Compensation Laws in 26 States during the past year, according to a report of the Social Security Board. In Maryland, maximum weekly benefits increased from $20 to $25; New Hampshire raised its maximum from $20 to $22; six other States increased payments to $20 and three States hiked their maximums to $18.

JOBLESS PROBLEMS REPORTED ON RISE IN 22 MAJOR AREAS

Washington, D. C.—The number of jobless is increasing in 22 of the Nation's 80 major labor market areas, it was reported here by the United States Employment Service.

The areas where labor surpluses were found are Portland, Me.; Fall River, Mass.; Scranton and Johnstown, Pa.; Wheeling, Huntington and Charleston, W. Va.; Charleston, S. C.; Savannah, Mobile, Tampa, Fla.; Terre Haute, Ind.; Wichita, Kan.; Augusta, Ariz., Reno and Yakima, Wash.; Portland, Ore., and Sacramento, San Jose, Stockton, San Bernardino, Los Angeles and San Diego, Calif.

Robert C. Goodwin, director of the service, said in a statement that half of the 80 areas reported declines in job opportunities because of price and wage business uncertainties.

There were about 2,500,000 unemployed in the week in April, Goodwin said, although seasonal upturns in agriculture and construction put employment up 500,000 over March.

The most significant declines in demand for labor were reported in New England, New York and Pennsylvania.

Mr. Goodwin also declared that nearly 500,000 young people who will leave school in June in search of jobs constitute a special challenge to employment.

Asserting that the future of this Nation's economy and political existence rests with young people and their chances for full employment, Goodwin stated that "those graduating in the years and following groups of graduates, will constitute almost a third of our labor force for the next seven years."

The number of veterans completing their interrupted schooling who will swell the ranks of job seekers in the next few years was set by Goodwin at 1,100,000.

If employment slacks off importantly, he declared, the first to lose their jobs will be, generally, young people and veterans, because they will have had less industrial experience and lower seniority than other workers.

PRICES DECLINE SLIGHTLY FROM MARCH RECORD HIGH

Washington, D. C.—During mid-April prices paid by moderate-income families were 0.3 percent lower than during the month of March which also was a record, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. There was a 2 percent increase between February 15 and March 15, 1946, but prices have since dropped while prices for all other major groups of living essentials advanced during that period.

Food prices in 34 cities declined 0.8 percent. Clothing prices rose 0.2 percent, fuel costs and miscellaneous goods and services 0.7 percent and house furnishings 0.1 percent, which remained unchanged.

While the family food bill was below the record high of March, 1947, it was 32 percent 5 percent above mid-February and slightly above the previous peak of November 15, 1946.

The month's clothing price increases shelved substantial gains in men's and topcoats, business shirts and cotton hosiery.

HOUSING AID FOR VETS

Washington, D. C.—President Truman has signed a bill authorizing another $400,000,000 in temporary re-use housing program. The money, when appropriated, will go toward converting Army barracks and other temporary structures such as temporary dwellings for student veterans and others.

The new funds will be used to complete projects started every construction but suspended or canceled in previous years, and to purchase public bodies for converting other units and for installation of utilities and other on-site work.

WILL AID APPRENTICESHIP

Washington, D. C.—The Labor Department has announced that among the members appointed by Secretary of Labor Lewis B. Schwellenbach to the Federal Committee on Apprenticeship are John P. Frey, President of the AFL Metal Trades Department, and C. J. Haggerty, Secretary-Treasurer of the California State Federation of Labor.

WOLL'S SON JOINS PADWAY

Washington, D. C.—J. Albert Woll, U. S. Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois, has become a law partner of Joseph L. Padway, General Counsel of the American Federation of Labor, and several affiliated unions.

Mr. Woll is a son of Matthew Woll, a vice president of the AFL.

NEW SET-UP FOR VETS

Washington, D. C.—War veterans' reemployment rights under the draft law will be handled by the new veterans' reemployment rights division of the U. S. Department of Labor, set up on May 23 by Secretary of Labor Lewis Schwellenbach.

Senate Spells Hardship or Tragedy For Millions by Voting Rent Jump

Washington, D. C.—By a voice vote, avoiding a voting record, the Senate approved a House-passed extension bill the notorious House-approved provision permitting "voluntary"—16-percent rent increases for 80 major labor market areas, it was reported here by the United States Employment Service.

That areas where labor surpluses were found are Portland, Me.; Fall River, Mass.; Scranton and Johnstown, Pa.; Wheeling, Huntington and Charleston, W. Va.; Charleston, S. C.; Savannah, Mobile, Tampa, Fla.; Terre Haute, Ind.; Wichita, Kan.; Augusta, Ariz., Reno and Yakima, Wash.; Portland, Ore., and Sacramento, San Jose, Stockton, San Bernardino, Los Angeles and San Diego, Calif.

Robert C. Goodwin, director of the service, said in a statement that half of the 80 areas reported declines in job opportunities because of price and wage business uncertainties.

There were about 2,500,000 unemployed in the week in April, Goodwin said, although seasonal upturns in agriculture and construction put employment up 500,000 over March.

The most significant declines in demand for labor were reported in New England, New York and Pennsylvania.

Mr. Goodwin also declared that nearly 500,000 young people who will leave school in June in search of jobs constitute a special challenge to employment.

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Woll Given 1947 Clendenin Award For Battle Against Slave Labor

Philadelphia.—Matthew Woll, Second Vice President of the American Federation of Labor and President of the AFL Union Label Trades Department, was presented with the 1947 Clendenin Award of the Workers Defense League at a dinner in honor of his strong leadership against slave labor legislation here recently.

The presentation was made at a dinner held at the Bellevue, attended by an address by Mr. Woll in which he vigorously reiterated his determination to fight for free labor.

"Millions of men and women are being held in bondage," Mr. Woll declared. "This expanding system of slave labor is a dire threat to the free workers of all countries," he said, "and therefore to the United States. From ten to fifteen millions are being held in slave labor camps "merely because they are suspected of disagreeing or expressing disagreement with the Party bosses."

Mr. Woll said that even in democratic countries, such as England and France, there are many hundreds of thousands of war prisoners living in slave labor camps "merely as forced labor."

Commending the Workers Defense League for its efforts to defend the victims of slave labor and labor groups, Mr. Woll ended his address with a ringing challenge to work "for a world free from hunger, misery, serfdom, prison labor and concentration camps, forced, indentured, slave labor, the degradation of mankind and degradation of the individual and the enslavement of the people of the world and the abolition of resort to force or violence against another."

Twelve others on the organization's board of directors attended the dinner, sponsored by AFL President William Green and hundreds of others prominent in the labor and progressive movement.

Among those honored were Harry Lorin Binsse, editorial writer; Harry Block, Philadelphia; George S. Counts, Dean, John Kido, attorney; Division of the foundations of education and professor of education at Teachers College, Columbia University; Clarence Pickard, treasurer, and C. H. Holden, chairman, Delta District Council, National Farm Labor Union, Arkansas; Mrs. Luella S. Hall-Wilson, Fort Lauderdale, Fla., retired teacher; Francis Heisler, Chicago, labor attorney; Phil Heller, New York, director, International Solidarity Committee; Ramon Kido, attorney, Los Angeles; Herbert Mahler, New York, secretary, Kentucky Miners Defense Committee; Dr. Von D. Mizell, Fort Lauderdale, surgeon and Florida WDL president; and Dean Roscoe M. Pound, Cambridge, D. C., statesman.

In addition to Mr. Woll, speakers were Norman Thomas, Jr., Phillip Murray, toastmaster; Norman Thomas; Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, and Mr. Herbert Syme, co-chairman of the dinner committee; Nathaniel M. Minkoff, who presented the Clendenin plaque to Mr. Woll; Charles Zimmerman, who presented scrolls to those on the Honor Roll; and Morris Milgram, WDL executive secretary.

Congratulatory telegrams and messages were received from a number of prominent individuals, including Senators Irving M. Ives, Leverett Saltonstall, Wayne L. Morse, Wallace H. Warner, and Robert F. Wagner, and many labor and civic leaders, among whom were David Dubinsky, Israel Feinberg, Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver, Rev. James Myers, and Max Zaritsky.

PRESSMEN IN ST. LOUIS GET SUBSTANTIAL RAISE

St. Louis, Mo.—Union pressmen here have accepted a $2.50 weekly increase, and the three local newspapers. They are members of the International Stereotypers and Electrotypers Union (AFL), Local 28.

The wage increase was retroactive to February 20. An additional $2.50 a week was granted every 26 days under a clause providing for a cost-of-living adjustment. The agreement runs for three years.

INDUSTRIAL FATALITIES HIGH

San Francisco, Calif.—Industrial accidents and fatalities still remain one of the worst dangers to production in California, despite a continuing a horrible waste of manpower. In the State of California alone, 1,600 persons died as a result of industrial accidents in 1946, according to a report from the Director of Industrial Relations.

TWO PAINTER ORGANIZERS DIE

San Francisco, Calif.—A serious loss to the labor movement was suffered of Thomas C. Meagher, general organizer, and Frank Rosenberg, beloved Bay Painters, Decorators and Paper Hangers (AFL), and Ray Gilston, a member of the same organization and international organizer for the Southern California area.

WILL CHALLENGE LEGISLATION

Springfield, Mo.—Officers of the Missouri Federation of Labor were authorized by their annual convention here to challenge the constitutionality of state anti-labor laws.

M'ENTEE AGAIN TO HEAD MUNICIPAL WORKERS' GROUP

Philadelphia, Pa.—William J. McEntee was elected president at the fourth term of District Council 33, American Federation of Labor, at a meeting at union headquarters here.

Thomas Wilson was elected business secretary-treasurer for a fourth term, while Andrew Kelly was elected vice president to succeed Harry Schickling. About 75 delegates representing 8200 members of eight locals of the council attended the meeting. Mr. McEntee, file supplied in by Robert T. Lonagan, international representative of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees.

KILLED BY MINE BLAST

Washington, D. C.—William Henry Patterson, mining engineer and former Columbia University athlete, died as a result of injuries incurred in a mine explosion in Michigan, the Navy announced.

Mr. Patterson had been working for the Navy Bureau of Mines at Negaunee, in northern Michigan for six years when he was still on terminal leave from the Navy.

DAIRY, MEAT PRICES DOWN

Washington, D. C.—Preliminary figures for May, released by the Labor Statistics show price drops of 2 percent for dairy products and 2.4 percent for meat, balanced rises in other food prices and in non-food essentials. The index now stands 50 percent above the prewar average, 19 percent above the April, 1946, level, and retail food prices are 32.7 percent above the mark of one year ago.

MORRIS HEADS JEWELRY UNION

Atlantic City, N. J.—Joseph Morris of Wallingford, Conn., was elected president of the International Jewelry Workers' Union (AFL) at its 11th annual convention here.

Green, Meany, O'Dwyer and Wagner Join In Urging All Workers to Make Voices Heard In Congress and White House on Vital Bill

(Release Thursday, June 5)

New York City.—One of the greatest mass demonstrations ever staged by organized labor—25,000 American workers packed into Madison Square Garden here—joined in a tumultuous condemnation of the Taft-Hartley slave labor bill, an urgent appeal to President Truman to veto the measure and demands upon their Senators and Representatives to sustain the veto.

Heading an impressive list of labor and civic leaders who addressed the vast audience, AFL President William Green told the meeting:

"Your message to President Truman is:
"Veto the slave labor bill!"
"Your message to Congress is:
"Uphold the President's veto!"

Mr. Green shared the platform with Mayor William O'Dwyer of New York, who had issued an official proclamation declaring today Veto Day and calling on all friends of labor to urge the President to veto the bill; George Meany, AFL Secretary-Treasurer; Senator Wagner of New York, author of the National Labor Relations Act; David Dubinsky, President of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, and Howard McSpeddon, President of the AFL Building Trades Council. Martin Lacey, President of the Central Trades and Labor Council, presided.

In a blistering attack on the slave labor legislation, Mr. Green stressed the imperative necessity for all American working men and women to make their voices against this bill "heard in Washington—both in Congress and the White House."

"And all over America millions of other free American workers and their friends will echo your determination and protest," he declared.

"I am proud of the fighting spirit shown in every industrial community in the United States during the past few today, and will always refuse, to surrender their heritage of freedom.

"You know and they know that the Taft-Hartley bill strikes at your heart, at your pocketbook and at your hopes of providing a decent living for your families.

"But the President and Congress must know this too. They must know how you feel. And the only way they can learn is by demonstrations of this kind and by a veritable flood of letters from the enemies of labor in Congress will be forced to stand up and be counted," Mr. Green asserted and he confident the President will veto the Taft-Hartley bill.

"I say that he can take any other course in the best interests of American people," he said. "The labor legislation feels practically every recommendation the President made to Congress in his annual message. If the President signs this slave labor bill now he will not only let Congress bypass of providing a decent living for your families.

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"when the enemies of labor in bor at election time casts his vote to send to America legislators who have no choice but to regard him as their enemy."

Citing the consistent championship of labor by Senator Wagner over a long period of years, Mr. Green called upon labor to back to the hilt the Senator free of New York, who represents "the highest principles, as a friend of labor, but voted for the Taft-Hartley bill in the Senate.

Declaring that the slave labor bill is punitive, would promote industrial strife, would be used chiefly authorize damage suits and anti-trust prosecutions against unions, probably forcibly weaken the nation's economy and create a dangerous hate philosophy, Mr. Green concluded:

"We, as labor, want a strong America, not a weak and impotent one. We are prepared to pay our country, not a Taft-Hartley depression. We want to make America better, but it succumb to the Taft-Hartley destruction of labor's rights.

"We think it is time that Congress and the people pressured any longer by the National Association of Manufacturers and other monopoly interests who are trying to line their already fat pocketbooks at the expense of every one of us. We think it is time that Congress gave its attention to the things the American people really need—decent housing for the homeless, health insurance for all, a reduction of the cost of living by curbing profiteers and a full measure of social security."

and postcards, written by you in your own handwriting and expressing your own thoughts in opposition to the Taft-Hartley Slave Bill.

"Make no mistake about it, this bill is inspired by fear. The enemies of labor are afraid—afraid of true democracy, frightened at the power labor demanding its rights. The Taft-Hartley bill is designed originally as a friend of labor, but voted for the Taft-Hartley bill in the Senate.

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'Veto Day' Proclamation Issued In New York City

New York City.—The proclamation issued by Mayor William O'Dwyer of this city calling upon all citizens of this city to aid labor in demanding defeat of the Taft-Hartley slave labor bill follows:

"Whereas, a free labor movement is one of the surest guarantees of free institutions, and

"Whereas, the American labor movement has demonstrated an inspiring loyalty to our democratic form of government in time of peace and in time of war, and

"Whereas, our free trade unions have made incomparable contributions to the advancement of democracy in our nation; and

"Whereas, the labor movement has been seriously impertilled by legislation now before the Congress of the United States; and

"Whereas, the legislation, known as the Taft-Hartley bill, would emasculate the Clayton Act, the Norris-LaGuardia Act and the Wagner Act, laws which extirpated grave injustices against the workingmen of our nation;

"Now, therefore, I, William O'Dwyer, Mayor of the City of New York, designate the fourth day of June, Nineteen Hundred and Forty-seven as a day of protest to our nation's legislators, and I do hereby urge the observance of this legislation which would be detrimental to the national welfare and our democratic system.

"And I further call upon all citizens of this city to join with organized labor in making known to our national authorities that the surest road to industrial peace is through friendly cooperation and understanding between management and labor.

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SUPPLEMENT

WILLIAM GREEN, President — WASHINGTON, D. C., FRIDAY, JUNE 6, 1947 — GEORGE MEANY, Secretary-Treasurer

Write Your Senators And Congressman To Fight Anti-Labor Bills

It's Up To Truman Now---To Veto Or Sign Taft-Hartley Bill

Tremendous New York City Rally Demands That Truman Veto Slave Labor Measure

Record Throng Cheers As Speakers Attack Taft-Hartley Bill

New York City.—The nation's largest city thundered a resounding demand for a veto of the Taft-Hartley Bill at the greatest rally ever held at Madison Square Garden.

More than 35,000 AFL members—double the number expected—jammed every nook and cranny of the vast amphitheater and overflowed in huge throngs on the surrounding streets to hear outstanding speakers attack the slave labor bill and to make their voices heard in protest against such restrictive legislation.

They succeeded in putting on such a tremendous demonstration that even hostile newspapers—not only in New York City, but throughout the country—felt obliged to publish Page One stories about the gathering.

Mayor O'Dwyer, who headed the list of distinguished speakers, warned that the bill would stamp out the freedom of "American labor, plunge the nation into depression and promote the spread of totalitarian doctrines.

(Note to Editors: Advance story on AFL President Green's address published in June 7 supplement. Text of Secretary-Treasurer Meany's address appear in adjoining column.)

Confidence that President Truman would veto the Taft-Hartley Bill was expressed by two Democratic Senators—Robert F. Wagner, of New York, and Warren G. Magnuson, of Washington.

Characterization of the Taft-Hartley Bill as a "mild" measure by its sponsors was denounced by President David Dubinsky of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, who called it "mild as an atomic bomb."

Mayor O'Dwyer said:

"I firmly believe that the Taft-Hartley Bill is intended to destroy and will destroy, if it becomes law, the guarantees of economic stability and will result in another national depression."

Mr. Dubinsky warned that Communism will make advances in this country if American workers are assailed with laws that destroy the natural rights and basic freedoms it took them years to win.

The garment workers chief said American workers "will neither forget nor forgive those in Congress who voted for this bill, Republicans or Democrats." He added:

"Those who were so eager to jump on the anti-labor bandwagon will find that it may well turn out to be a speeding vehicle on the road to political oblivion."

TRACY TO ASK VETO IN CBS RADIO SPEECH

Washington, D. C.—Dan W. Tracy, President of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and former Assistant Secretary of Labor under President Roosevelt's wartime Truman, will appeal for a President's veto of the Taft-Hartley Bill in a radio address scheduled to be broadcast over a nation-wide CBS network Friday, June 13, at 8 P.M., Eastern Daylight Time.

Mr. Tracy, a veteran labor leader and a progressive exponent of labor-management peace through free collective bargaining, said he plans to expose the Taft-Hartley Bill as a backdoor step which would replace long-established cooperative relations between fair employers and unions and promote industrial chaos.

Be sure to tune in on this informative address!

Meany Assails About-Face of Senator Ives on Anti-Labor Bill

New York City.—Assailing the profit-hungry forces of Big Business responsible for the Taft-Hartley Bill and the politicians who do their bidding, AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany called upon President Truman bluntly to veto this dangerous legislation.

Addressing the "Veto Day" rally at Madison Square Garden, Mr. Meany drew resounding cheers when he said:

"There is only one answer to this bill. The President of the United States must decide whether he is going to cast his lot with the National Association of Manufacturers and their agents who are trying to bring us back to the good old days of low wages and high profits, or whether he is going to allow the workers of this nation to continue to share and prosper as they have in the last 15 years to a higher and ever higher standard of life. I am sure no one can speak for the President. But my respective would be presumptuous, but I can say this, that I, for one, am supremely confident that when this decision is made, the President of the United States will be found on the side of the little people of America."

Mr. Meany concentrated his chief attack on Senator Irving Ives, Republican, of New York, who was elected as a friend of labor but turned about-face completely in voting for the Taft-Hartley Bill. After reviewing the Senator's own written statements opposing legal compulsions against labor, Mr. Meany said:

"Now we find Senator Ives supporting and voting for this vicious, compulsory, anti-labor bill, known as the Taft-Hartley Bill. So, this again so brings up the question of power. What power was in that brought about this conversion of Senator Ives, as an advocate of cooperation as the basis for human relationships to become the advocate of a bill which would destroy the basic rights of labor and bring legal slavery into our country for the first time since 1864? Could it have been the power of these goon, weak and spineless men who were glad to earn a mere pittance of twelve billion dollars net last year? Or could it have been the power of party politics, putting political advantage above all else, including the welfare of the nation? I think it would be quite interesting to know just what happened in the case of Senator Ives."

GREAT AFL RADIO SHOW SPEARHEADS ATTACK ON ANTI-LABOR BILL

New York City.—A full-hour radio show providing top-flight entertainment by "big name" stars of stage, screen and radio and containing blistering attacks against the Taft-Hartley Bill was broadcast over the nation-wide networks of the American broadcasting Company and the Mutual Broadcasting System by the American Federation of Labor in cooperation with the Entertainment Industry Committee.

It was concededly the greatest radio show ever put on the air by any labor organization.

The appeal to listeners was to wire or write President Truman to veto the Taft-Hartley Bill. An enormous public response was indicated.

Among the stars participating in the show were Milton Berle, Jimmy Durante, Gary Moore, Edward G. Robinson, Martha Tilton, the Delta Rhythm Boys, the Henry Mars, Mark Warnow's Orchestra and the Lyn Murray Chorus.

Foremost among the prominent speakers who made brief talks assailing the anti-labor legislation was Bishop Bernard J. Shiel, of Chicago.

DANGER!

There is danger ahead . . . danger to you and to all other Americans who live by working.

You must stop and take notice, or get hurt!

Congress has now passed and sent to the President the most dangerous bill of our times. It is called the Taft-Hartley Bill.

There have been other bills pressured through the Congress and laid on the desk of our Chief Executive—but never one with more one-sided intent—never before one designed to weigh down the scales of justice on the side of privilege and power—never before a bill written to punish millions of working people simply because they are **union** working people.

The Slave Labor Bill is a travesty and a mockery of our American heritage. It is a threat to a free people.

What can you do about it?

Write or Wire President Truman To Veto the Taft-Hartley Bill!

AFL Spurs Big Drive For Veto Mandate Against Bill

Washington, D. C.—It's up to President Truman now—the crucial decision whether to veto or sign the "mild as murder" Taft-Hartley Bill.

Congress was completing action on the legislation as this edition went to press. The House of Representatives passed it by the overwhelming vote of 320 to 79. The Senate, after winding up a torrid debate, was expected to adopt the measure by a less sweeping margin. The Taft-Hartley Bill will then be rushed to the White House.

President Truman will have ten days in which to act after the bill reaches his desk.

During this ten days, the American Federation of Labor will launch a gigantic drive to roll up an overwhelming people's mandate for a veto.

A nation-wide radio programs, newspaper advertisements and mass meetings, the like of which will be staged at home, to the American people the truth as to how the Taft-Hartley Bill will hurt them and weaken the entire nation, along with labor.

The AFL's urgent appeal to all its members and to all its friends is to write to President Truman at the White House, Washington, D. C., asking that he veto the Taft-Hartley Bill.

Three progressive Congressmen—Representative John Lesinski, of Michigan; Arthur G. Klein, of New York, and Ray J. Madden, of Indiana—issued a personal plea to President Truman at the White House to suggest that he veto the Taft-Hartley Bill.

They came away greatly encouraged by the President's attitude.

The opinion of the Congressional delegation was enhanced by a highly unusual step taken by President Truman when he read to newspapermen a long statement setting forth his bitter denunciation of the price policies followed by Secretary Anderson and those of the sponsors of the Taft-Hartley Bill.

The President called Senator Taft's position on prices as related to international policy "fallacious and dangerous."

The Congressmen were quick to point out that the Taft-Hartley Bill is even more "fallacious and dangerous." It poses as a "mild" reform measure but it contains deadly poison to labor and to the entire nation in the hidden form of legislative "joker" and restrictive technical provisions.

For instance, Senator Taft was forced to admit on the Senate floor that one provision in his bill would prohibit publications such as "Labor," organ of the railway unions, from endorsing a candidate or support or in opposition to political candidates in election campaigns.

Likewise, Representative Fred Hartley, of New Jersey, co-sponsor of the legislation with Senator Taft, admitted that the National Labor Relations Board has business gripes over slight deviations in the bill, said:

"I am their best friend."

And in the Senate in the House, Representative Lesinski, leading the opposition, declared:

"Real danger lies in this bill, not only in what it says but also in its subtlety. Congress is being misled. The bill will be back here in a few months, and, mark my words, this evil thing will shortly be undone."

This implied warning of political retribution at the polls in the 1948 elections because of the support Republican leaders have given the Taft-Hartley Bill was further developed by the Congressional delegation in their conference with President Truman.

They told him he could never hope to carry the big city metropolitan districts in 1948 unless he vetoes the legislation.

If the President does reject the Taft-Hartley Bill, the final test will come on whether Congress will uphold the veto. It is expected that a combination of reactionary Republicans and anti-labor Democrats can muster enough votes in the House to override a veto. But the issue likely will be decided in the Senate. Only one-third plus one—a maximum of 33 votes—is necessary to uphold a veto of the Taft-Hartley Bill.

Surveys made by the Legislative Committee of the American Federation of Labor indicate that the prospects are bright of being able to sustain a veto in the Senate. The more mail and telegrams received by members of the Senate urging them to uphold a Presidential veto, the greater the likelihood of success.

So do your part! Sit down right now and write the two Senators from your State, calling upon them to uphold a Presidential veto of the Taft-Hartley Bill!

Southern Group Backs AFL Fight

Washington, D. C.—Backing up the AFL's militant opposition to the Taft-Hartley Bill, the Southern Conference For Human Welfare, an organization with a large membership in the South, published newspaper advertisements here urging President Truman to veto the legislation.

The ad was addressed to the nation's workers. It advised them that even if they did not belong to a union "the Taft-Hartley Bill Gets You Anyway." The message continued:

"Everyone suffers in a depression. And the Taft-Hartley anti-labor bill pushes the whole country toward depression because—

It weakens the bargaining strength of 15 million organized workers. This means more unemployment no matter how high prices go.

It practically says outs.

"Pay cuts mean layoffs and less income for everybody—small businessmen, office workers, Government employes, housewives, wage-earners.

"Urge the President to veto and urge him to veto the Taft-Hartley Bill."

Truman Mail Hits Anti-Labor Laws

Washington, D. C.—The White House is receiving a flood of mail on the Taft-Hartley Bill and a majority of these messages from the American people urge President Truman to veto the legislation.

This was revealed by a White House secretary, who said that since May 15 the President has received 20,000 postcards and 64,000 letters, as well as a smaller number of telegrams—all dealing with anti-labor legislation.

The secretary pointed out that against the legislation were not made known by the White House staff.

It is expected that once the Taft-Hartley Bill reaches the President's desk, the volume of mail and telegrams from the people will increase by thousands.

The President wants to know how the American people feel about such an important issue because it will help him to make up his own mind.

Mr. Truman has frequently appeals to all its members and friends to write to President Truman and is asking him to veto the Taft-Hartley Bill.

New 'Jokers' In 'Mild As Murder' Bill Exposed During Hot Senate Debate

Washington, D. C.—Senate debate exposed a number of new and dangerous "jokers" in the "D.D.T." Taft-Hartley Bill—"D.D.T." standing for Senator Taft's deceptive poison-gas ouse in effect.

Senator Warren G. Magnuson, of Washington, put Senator Robert A. Taft on the spot when he made public a letter which declares that the bill would prohibit union publications from supporting political candidates.

Senator Alben Barkley, the Democratic minority leader, and many of his colleagues joined in the argument Taft with barbed questions on this point and emphasized that labor was being denied an equal voice with business in making its views known on political candidates.

Taft was forced to admit that union funds could not be used by a union publication if it, for example, published an article supporting President Truman for re-election and opposing "candidate Taft."

Senator Wayne Morse, of Oregon, announced that he would reject the Republican leadership vote to uphold a veto of the bill by President Truman.

The Senator brought to light a new "joker" in the bill when he revealed that in the joint Senate-House conference on the law words had been written in excluding Federal Reserve banks from being considered "employers." This means, he said, that although the 27,000 employes of the Federal Reserve Banks are employes of private organizations they will be denied their democratic rights to organize and join a union for their economic improvement. What kind of pressure produced this "joker"?

Paul Hutchings, President of the AFL Office Employes International Union, supplied a partial answer to that question when he revealed that the Federal Reserve Bank at Dallas, Tex., has been resisting by all sorts of unfair methods the organization of its office employes since 1944. This bank has carried its fight upon the National Labor Relations Board to hold that it had no jurisdiction, then it tried to influence employes against joining the union, then it rehired employes who had joined the union and replaced them with new workers who had first been queried about their union views, Mr. Hutchings alleged.

AFL Economist Boris Shishkin exposed another major "joker" in the legislation, contained in Section 8, subdivisions B and C. Under these provisions, he pointed out, a union which asks a worker to vote and tells him that by joining the union he can get benefits, can have such a statement held against it as evidence of an unfair labor practice.

How, Mr. Shishkin asked, could a union ever organize if it did not organize and produce benefits for workers? Why else would they even consider joining a union?

TWO MAYORS HIT SLAVE BILL

By WILLIAM O'DWYER, Mayor of New York

It's been a long time now, but most of us have not forgotten the Republican depression that began in 1929. When we hit bottom in 1932 and President Roosevelt took hold, we needed help from the Government. And so began the New Deal—a philosophy of Government based on the simple, democratic principle that we should do what was good for the most people.

As conditions improved, the same old crowd that led us right into the worst depression we have yet had, became vocal once more. In Congress, on the radio, in the newspapers, from the speaking platforms. The New Deal was under attack.

Government, they said, was trying to run business. The New Deal was "planned economy." "Statism." "socialism," and even "Communism."

If Washington would only let us alone, they said, we could solve all our problems ourselves. Get rid of the bureaucrats, the rules, the regulations they cried. The New Deal is inefficient, extravagant, wasteful, blood brother to the foreign isms.

That's what they said in the days of President Roosevelt.

But this is not all ancient history.

About one year ago we were assured by Robert Taft, Republican Senator from Ohio, and his cohorts in Congress, and by the Republican Party, that if the Government's OPA ceilings were removed. They scoffed at the estimates of the Administration that the cost of living would increase.

So the OPA was demolished in deference to those who clamored against government regulation of prices and we got "free enterprise." And we got the answer all too well when you go out to buy food and clothing and other necessities.

But we have to say this for the Republicans. At least they were consistent. They opposed social security and unemployment insurance legislation of the New Deal and they fought against regulatory War Emergency legislation.

But now what do we find with the passage of the Taft-Hartley bill by the Republican Congress? The greatest advocates of the private enterprises have now embarked on the most comprehensive program of regulation by government we have yet to see in this generation.

Of course they don't want to regulate everybody. Just the majority of the people—those who work for a living at wages of $30, $40 and $50 a week.

It took the New York Times more than 14 full length newspaper columns to report the complete text of this bill. It is filled with rules and regulations of management and labor are free from its restrictive provisions. Before a union is formed, there are rules for their dealings with management. There are restrictions on what the union and the boss can be made. There are rules of procedure where no agreements are made. There are rules, regulations, restrictions and controls.

Those of us who sincerely believe in free private enterprise, also believe in free collective bargaining. Collective bargaining must be on a free basis. If the Republicans want the freedom for capital to own and operate businesses, as I do, they must recognize the right of free men—and women—to own and operate their unions.

Now let me make it perfectly clear. I'm prepared to have it out both ways. I am against any kind of state control—for business or labor. I have an intense loathing and hatred for the fascist and communistic glorification of the state at the expense of the individual.

Let me also make this clear. Government has a job to do in correcting abuses by industry or labor, and I'm in favor of having corrected the abuses by the extremists on both sides.

But that's a far cry from the Taft-Hartley form of state control of labor unions.

I have an abiding and deep-rooted faith in the common sense, the intelligence, the emotional stability of the working men and women, as well, for that matter, as the business men and women of America. I do not believe that either group must be perfected or placed in shackles. I therefore oppose, with all the vigor I can command, the Taft-Hartley Labor Control Law.

By HUBERT H. HUMPHREY, Mayor of Minneapolis

As Mayor of Minneapolis I am grateful for the opportunity to give my views on the Taft-Hartley Labor Legislation. Having worked in the Labor Education Field as a teacher, and having served in labor agencies as mediator, I have had some experience in labor relation, and naturally have some opinions on such matters.

I do not speak as an expert but I do speak as a citizen who has a burning desire to see and make this American democracy—our democratic system, really in our lives. Let me say at the outset I am strongly opposed to the Taft-Hartley Bill, and I do not believe it is necessary.

I oppose it because I consider it unsound legislation. I say it strikes at the heart of American democracy and destroys the democratic system. I say the Taft-Hartley Bill threatens the gains made by labor in the past twenty years, and threatens to destroy the principle of free and collective bargaining which has been the cornerstone of our industrial relations in a free economy.

The free enterprise system can exist only if the balance is kept between free management and free labor. When the balance is upset, instead of gaining power exists, decisions which affect both parties can be made jointly by the bargaining table. Decisions are made unilaterally and both parties, well adapted to the needs of industrial productivity. To give anti-union management the right to use the power of government is to step away from this voluntary process. It is a step toward compulsion and government domination. It is a step toward economic anarchy and lack of confidence which has been created between management and labor—a faith and confidence which has been responsible for the greatest industrial and economic power such as we know it today.

Labor organization is not the result of the emotions of a postwar era when the entire world is suffering from the destructive forces of war, will set a pattern for American economy for the future. It is a positive confession and ever increasing regimentation for industry and management, as well as trade union organizations. Management and employers should remember that the strength of our economy system lies in the strength of organization today aimed at crippling labor and destroying the voluntary joint decision of free management and free labor agreements. It strikes at our whole system of enterprise. Labor relations as contemplated under this bill will result in decisions arbitrarily dictated by the government. Bureaucratic boards will be brought between management and labor with elaborate machinery for making and enforcing decisions hearings, order, court action, trials, punishments. Decisions of economic policy will pass from the hands of management and labor to the hands of bureaucrats concerned and experienced in plant operation, to the detached bureaucrats and who have little or no knowledge of the practical problems involved in labor industrial relations.

Once started, this process of arbitrary dictation, with its elaborate bureaucracy of boards and rulings, of necessity feeds upon itself and expands. More and more boards, specialists, enforcement agencies are required to handle the huge volume of cases. Labor and management well remember how the War Labor Board grew from a few boards of persons to approximately 2,500 employes. If the voluntary process of labor-management negotiations is sabotaged by the Taft-Hartley Bill, regimentation will soon reach to other fields. Rulings which limit wage increases must be followed by rulings to control prices, production and profits if the economy is to be kept in balance. When collective bargaining no longer assures a just share of industrial earnings for workers, buying power dries up as it did in 1929 and depression follows. This time when government is called in to readjust the balance, wartime practices will be fresh in everyone's mind and management will be compelled to regimentation will undoubtedly find themselves carrying out government orders in government operated plants. There are elements in American economic and political life who are eager to see a permanent bureaucracy with rigid controls governing our economic system. This will make it easier for them to seize power.

Sol Rosenblatt Impartial Chairman Of N. Y. Women's Garment Trades

Washington, D. C.—Colonel Sol A. Rosenblatt was named impartial chairman of the dress industry's ladies' children's coat and suit industry, succeeding former Governor Poletti, who resigned May 28. It is Colonel Rosenblatt's second appointment in the past few months, he was named by President Truman in 1946.

A prominent New York attorney and civic leader, Colonel Rosenblatt served in 1933 as division administrator of the National Recovery Administration in charge of the New York metropolitan picture, theater, radio, transportation, advertising and apparel industries. He was also the former national director of compliance of the NRA.

A World War II veteran with four years of service, he was a member of the American Air Forces, serving with every unit in the China, Burma, India and the Pacific. Colonel Rosenblatt is the holder of the Legion of Merit. He was selected by a committee of this field.

Union Label Show For '48 To Be Held In Milwaukee

Washington, D. C.—I. M. Ornburn, Secretary-Treasurer of the Union Label Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor, has announced that a Union Label Exposition will be held in Milwaukee from May 12 to 16, 1948. The exhibition, of which he is Director, is sponsored by the Union Label Trades.

"We have developed two sensationally successful shows, the first in Cincinnati in 1935, and the second in St. Louis in 1946," Mr. Ornburn said, "and we are confident that our 1948 show in the Milwaukee Auditorium will be one of the most outstanding events of its kind in the history of the Union Label movement.

"Personally, I desire to extend a cordial invitation to every member of Labor and friend of Labor to visit the Union Label exhibition. I know that we shall have the same measure of cooperation from all branches of the organized Union movement that has been accorded and extended to us in the past.

"An attractive prospectus with the floor plan of the exhibition hall has been mailed to union manufacturers, merchandisers and other unionized industries. The booth display space is confined exclusively to AFL unions and to firms that have collective bargaining agreements with AFL unions.

"Our exhibitions are where we prove, beyond any doubt, that union products and services are much superior in quality and workmanship," added Director Ornburn, "and they are practical examples of labor-management cooperation. They also are good-will-building events for labor, business and consumers alike. The chief purpose is to increase the demand for all things UNION."